

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 9:27 AM
To: Hasala Dharmawardena
Subject: RE: Customer Comments - Duke Power Rate increase 2019

Dear Hasala Dharmawardena,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116872>

You can view Exhibits A thru E on our website – [Matter #279903](#).

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Executive Assistant
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
803-896-5133

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RECEIVED
DEC 20 2018
PSC SC
MAIL / DMS

From: Hasala Dharmawardena [mailto:]
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 10:11 PM
To: PSC_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>
Subject: RE: Customer Comments - Duke Power Rate increase 2019

Dear Commissioner,

In addition, the utility proposes to increase the Residential Basic Facilities Charge from \$8.29 to \$28.00 per month effective June 1, 2019.

This is a 337% increase. It will be also significantly impact the lower end users (who correlate with low income bracket). The customer requests that the increase of the Residential Basic Facilities Charge be limited to a maximum of 10% year on year to ensure fairness for people with lower income.

Can you please send me Exhibits A to E since these were not available in the PSCSC website (docket number 2018-319-E.).

Regards,
Hasala

From: Hasala Dharmawardena
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 9:45 PM
To: contact@psc.sc.gov
Subject: Customer Comments - Duke Power Rate increase 2019

Dear Commissioner,

Please find below my comments with respect to the request for comments published last month by the PSCSC. The Number is DOCKET NO. 2018-319-E. The comments are based on the information presented in <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Attachments/Matter/aca5368d-4726-4db3-a64e-612ee1ccf997>.

15.

- a. What is the cost associated with the new billing system? What are its new functionalities? Why does this need to be borne by the customers. Will this save money for the utility?
- b. How will the state of art technology impact the quality of the power delivered to customers? What are the expected changes in quantitative terms such as SAIFI and SAIDI.
- c. Why should the solar generation facilities be paid for by the customers? What is the basis for that decision? How will it affect service of Utility Energy?

16.

- a. Utility states that Gas fueled generation increased costs and that the reason was to have a cleaner, more reliable and smarter energy future. Was cost saving not a part of this decision? Should this not bring the costs down with the lower capital cost as well as O&M costs associated with gas fueled generation?
- b. Again why should the decision for Utility to invest in large scale solar projects be paid for by customers?
- c. Did utility see the alternative options to relicensing the hydro-electric facilities? Will this cost not be offset by the minimum cost for hydro generation?

17.

- a. Why should customers pay for the Lee Nuclear facility investment when the decision was taken by Utility to build it in the first place and then to stop it. What percentage of the cost is borne by Utility?

19. Will this investment on smart systems help to decrease costs to Utility? How about the customers? Was the decrease in costs to Utility considered in the requested \$15 million?

20. What costs would have occurred if there were no CCR compliance requirements?. How does the original compliance requirements differ from the new compliance requirements (CCR)?

21. Why continue CCR even after compliance is met?

22. What is meant by 'smarter grid'. If the grid is meant to be smarter should it not decrease costs rather than increase costs?

38. What is meant by dynamic power flows? How much of customer owned technologies/generation is targeted in the Grid improvement plan? What is meant by 'system intelligence'?

39. What are the improvements in SAIFI and SAIDI resulting from the Grid Improvement Plan? Why should you 'optimize voltage' when the requirement is to meet the grid code? What advantages to optimizing voltage?

42. Why should all the customers bare the cost for transition to LED? Since I do not have any kind of lighting, why should I pay for subsidizing other customers to get LED outdoor lights?

48. For any given technology, why was this not considered in the original decommissioning studies? How does the utility plan to ensure that this mistake is not repeated? Will this not make a change to the expected level playing field resulting in actually using more expensive generation rather than cheaper generation? Who should be responsible for the error?

Best Regards,
Hasala Dharmawardena
Duke Energy Customer